

**Does the NOP allow the use of ingredients made with petrochemicals in products labeled as “organic,” or “made with % organic ingredients?” If so, why is this the case?**

All synthetics are prohibited in organic production and handling, unless they appear on the National List under 205.601, 205.603, and 205.605 (b). These synthetics are reviewed and recommended for inclusion on the National List by the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)—the private citizen advisory board that advises the Secretary of Agriculture on these materials and substances for the National List. In addition, the NOSB and NOP calls for such substances to receive third-party technical advisory panel reviews (TAP reviews), which also provide the NOSB with information on how such substances meet the criteria under the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) and the NOP regulations, before the NOSB makes a determination to recommend such substances for inclusion on the National List. In no case, can any organic product be produced using excluded methods, sewage sludge, irradiation, or any prohibited substance that does not appear on the National List.

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